



News Release from Congressman
ROB SIMMONS

SECOND DISTRICT , CONNECTICUT

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SIMMONS PRAISES SUB BASE TEE BALL TEAM FOR WHITE HOUSE GAME

**Little League Tee Ball Teams From Naval Submarine Base New
London And McGuire Air Force Base (N.J.) Play A Friendly Game At
The White House**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Rob Simmons, R-2nd District, today congratulated the Dolcom Little League Indians, which is made up of the children of personnel at Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton (CT), for participating in the White House T-ball game on the South Lawn. President and Mrs. Bush joined the team's families in the stands.

"I am so proud of these youngsters from eastern Connecticut and can only imagine how exciting it must have been to play a game at the White House today," said Simmons. "Today's action saw lots of good swings, slick fielding and most of all – good fun and team spirit."

The teams squared off for the first Navy-Air Force game and in keeping with the tradition of T-ball on the South Lawn, no score was kept between the Dolcom Little League Indians and the McGuire Air Force Base (NJ) Little League Yankees. Every player on both teams played on defense and batted once in the one-inning game. Following the game, the players and families participated in a picnic on the South Lawn. A baseball autographed by President George W. Bush was presented to each player, manager, and coach.

The game is the 14th played on the South Lawn of the White House since May 6, 2001, when President Bush began the initiative as a way to boost interest in baseball among children and parents. Little League Baseball and Softball, the largest youth sports program in the world, have seen registration numbers increase so far this year by more than 20,000 players.

The honorary commissioner for the game was U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman, Marine Gen. Peter Pace. The honorary base coaches were the two military installation commanders: Navy Capt. Sean Sullivan and Air Force Col. Rick Martin.

Little League Baseball and Softball is the world's largest youth sports organization, with more than 2.7 million children participating in every U.S. state and dozens of other countries on six continents. Little League is the only youth sports organization to be chartered by the U.S. Congress.

"The entire state of Connecticut is proud of the Dolcom Little League Indians," concluded Simmons. "I am excited to know that Sub Base New London not only houses the best submariners in the world, but some of the best T-ballers too."

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